

Media Information



Columbus Division of Police

Date: August 16, 2020

Major Crimes Bureau / Felony Assault Unit

Thomas Quinlan, Chief of Police

For further information, contact: Det. Deryl Kowalski #2293

Phone: (614) 645 - 4141

Ext: 4189

Type of Offense/Incident: Shooting / Felony Assault

Date: 8/16/2020

Time: 4:33 AM

Location of Offense/Incident: 2805 W. Broad Street

Zone: 3

Precinct: 19

Incident Report #: 200612874

Cruiser District: 194

Victim: Eric Fitzwater

Sex: M

Race: W

Age: 41

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Victim:

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested ☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

Suspect:

Address:

☐ Arrested ☐ Warrant on File

Sex:

Race:

Age:

Charges:

Incident Summary: On August 16, 2020 at approximately 4:33 a.m., Columbus Police Patrol officers were alerted to gunshots being fired by ShotSpotter at the Marathon gas station located at 2805 W. Broad Street. Upon the officers arrival they spoke to the employees and they stated the gunshots were fired as a result of an argument. There were no victim(s) making themselves known to the officers while they were on scene at the gas station.

At approximately 6:25 a.m., Franklin County Sheriff Office dispatchers received a call from Eric Fitzwater who stated he was shot in the leg at 2805 W. Broad Street. Mr. Fitzwater stated he was involved in an argument with an unknown individual while he was getting gas. He stated as he was leaving the gas station he hit a windshield of a vehicle with a baseball bat causing it to break. It is unclear if the smashed windshield belonged to the person he was arguing with or someone else. He added as he fled the parking lot an unknown individual fired four to five (4-5) gunshots at him. One (1) of the gunshots struck him in the left knee. Mr. Fitzwater was transported to Grant Hospital and is currently in stable condition.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Detective Deryl Kowalski of the Columbus Police Felony Assault Unit at 614-645-4189 or Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at 614-461-TIPS(8477).

Copy To: ☒ Executive Staff

☒ Bureau Commander

☒ Public Information Office

Prepared By: D. Kowalski #2293

Assignment: FAU

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Approved By: Sgt. J. Jardine #5209

Assignment: FAU